

Superintendent's Advisory Committee Public School Accountability Act of 1999

**Department of Education
721 Capitol Mall, Room 166 A/B
Sacramento, CA 95814**

**March 21, 2001
1:00 p.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Holly Covin, Co-chair; Assistant Executive Director, Policy Analysis & Research, CSBA
General Davie, Co-chair, Jr., Superintendent, San Juan Unified School District
Vicki Barber, El Dorado County Superintendent of Schools
Tom Boysen, Senior Vice President, Education, Milken Family Foundation
Mary Alice Callahan, President, Morgan Hill Federation of Teachers
Jerry Hayward, Director, Policy Analysis for California Education
Ed Haertel, Professor, Stanford University, School of Education
Jere Jacobs, Former Assistant Vice President, Pacific Telesis
Cecelia Mansfield, California State PTA
Dolores Ochoa, Parent, State Parent Advisory Board
Jeff Orlinsky, Teacher, Warren High School
Tamara Powers, Parent
Ernesto Ruiz, Director, Migrant Education, Region 2, Butte County Office of Education
Shelly Spiegel-Coleman, ESL Consultant, Los Angeles County Office of Education
Rosie Thompson, Business Unit Executive, IBM Global Education
Charles Weis, Ventura County Superintendent of Schools
Lynn Wilen, Superintendent, Reef Sunset Unified School District

MEMBERS ABSENT

Sam Araki, Former President, Lockheed Martin Missiles & Space
Eva Baker, Director, Center for the Study of Evaluation, University of California at Los Angeles
Rudy Castruita, San Diego County Superintendent of Schools
Carl Cohn, Co-Chair; Superintendent, Long Beach Unified School District
Leslie DeMersseman, Immediate Past President, California School Boards Association
Patsy Estrellas, Teacher, Norwalk La Mirada School District/California Teachers Association
Bob Friedman, Chief Operations Officer, CSIS
Janett Humphries, President, SEIU Local 99, Los Angeles Unified School District
Kelvin Lee, Superintendent, Dry Creek Joint Elementary School
Sidney Morrison, Principal, Arnold Elementary School/ACSA State President
Bill Ouchi, Vice-Dean, Anderson School, University of California at Los Angeles
Lynette Nyaggah, Teacher, Rio Hondo College
Pat Pineda, Co-Chair; Vice President, Legal, Environmental, and Government Affairs, NUMMI

Scott Plotkin, Chief Consultant and Staff Director, Senate Education Committee
Irene Sumida, Co-Director, Fenton Avenue Charter School
Rene Townsend, Professor/Consultant, CSU San Marcos, College of Education

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISON

Susan Hammer - Absent

PRINCIPAL STAFF TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

William Padia, Director, Policy and Evaluation Division
Wendy Harris, Director, Education Support and Networks Division
Pat McCabe, Manager, Education Planning and Information Center
Patrick Chladek, Manager, Awards Unit

Call to Order: Mr. Davie called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. He welcomed Holly Covin back from her maternity leave.

PSAA Update: Mr. Padia informed committee members that on February 7, 2001, the State Board of Education (SBE) adopted new Academic Performance Index (API) policies regarding the administration of the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) test. The five policy issues discussed and adopted were: (1) parental waivers, (2) percent of pupils tested in a content area, (3) deadlines for data submissions and corrections, (4) testing irregularities, and (5) STAR participation rates. These policies were then incorporated into California code of Regulations (CCR), Title 5, that were presented and adopted by the SBE during the February 2001 meeting.

Mr. Padia added there have been several districts applying to the SBE for waivers of the Title 5 Regulations. He stated most waivers fell into four categories:

- (1) 15% parental opt outs. Mr. Padia described the process the department was taking when determining each district's appeal. He stated the Educational Planning and Information Center takes the data submitted by the district, conducts a statistical analysis of the data, determining if the testing population continued to be representative of the student population at a site. They then provide a recommendation to the SBE to approve or disapprove the waiver.
- (2) Testing irregularities. The SBE indicated that a school found to have testing irregularities would not receive an API for one year instead of two years if district demonstrated due diligence with following the investigation process: 1) Self reported irregularities, 2) Only a small number of students involved
- (3) Two year's growth for AB 1114. Currently there is pending litigation regarding the use of 1998-1999 STAR improvement criteria. There will be a hearing on April 20th to resolve the litigation.
- (4) Requesting revisions for the FTE counts for SSEBP and Certificated Staff award. Some districts discovered they miscalculated their FTE counts, and wish to make additions.

Mr. Padia ended his report by stating that on Monday, March 26, 2001, the Schoolsite Employee Performance Bonus will be posted on the Internet. Each Full Time Equivalent (FTE) will receive \$591.

Integration of Standards-based Test(s) Into the API: Ed Haertel presented a slide show “The 2001 Base Academic Performance Index (API): Integrating the California Standards Test for English-Language Arts (ELA) into the API”. He began his presentation by describing the Standards Based Test (SBT). He then defined the five Performance Levels and the 4 cut points. He stated that the SBE wish for all students to achieve the “Proficient Level”. He stated with the addition of new indicators, specifically the English Language Arts Standards Based Test, (ELA SBT) there is a concern that the levels of API will go down because the SBT is perceived to be more challenging than the SAT-9. Mr. Haertel stated the Technical Design Group came up with several alternatives to prevent this drop. He shared the Technical Design Group’s recommendations how to incorporate the new upcoming indicators into the API for 2001 base.

Visit From Delaine Eastin: Ms. Eastin stated she wished to thank all Advisory Committee members for all the hard work they have done. She pointed out that the committee has been in existence for two years and they have made astounding progress in a very limited amount of time. In conversations with other state chiefs she shared that they are impressed with the quality of work the committee has done. She stated, “People have come to look upon our work in developing an accountability system as a very reasonable approach and is highly incredible.” She shared that the state of Oklahoma has taken and incorporated California’s work. She stated, “Many of you were present at the creation of this committee. You have taken a lot of time away from your companies and foundations to come here, to share at these meetings as well as participate in important subcommittee work. I want to thank you all for your participation and I am most appreciative of your time and efforts.”

Continued Conversation of Integration of Standards-based Test(s) Into the API:
Discussion continued regarding the Technical Design Group’s recommendations.
Questions included:

Issue # 1 Should the scale of 200 to 1000 and the performance target of 800 be retained?

Issue # 2 What are the performance level weighting factors that will be used to calculate the single number that will summarize pupil performance in the ELA Standards Based Test (SBT)?

Issue # 3 How will the summary number for the ELA SBT be integrated into the API?

Issue # 4 What weight will be given to the ELA SBT relative to the ELA norm-referenced component (ELA NRT)?

Issue #5 Should this weight be applied immediately in 2001 or phased in gradually?

The Advisory Committee agreed that communication to the field is vital. One member suggested establishing and providing advanced communication stating “These new indicators are coming down the track”. The communication would provide information on how the new API calculations would look like and how the incremental phase in would proceed.

One member stated he would like to set out a plan to also include the Math, Science and Social Science Standards Based Tests. A second member stated he would like to see that if there are added standards based tests, that their percentage not be at the expense of math. Committee members agreed if the math standards based test is also brought in during the 2001 year, it would be weighted 40%.

Most advisory committee members supported the principle that SBE should apply the same rules for each Standards Based Test as it becomes included in the API calculation.

Considerable discussion focused on creating a schedule implementation of the new API indicators. Discussion focused around the question, do we immediately apply the weighted factors for the Standards Based Tests in 2001 or phase in the factors over time? There was strong consensus to include a two year “phase in” period. SBTs could be weighted 20 percent or 40 percent the first year, with a goal to maximize the SBT weight by the second year. A recommendation to the SBE was not finalized. The Advisory Committee agreed to continue discussion of the five issues at the next meeting.

Public Comment: There was none.

Other Issues: Ernesto Ruiz, made the request to add the ELD topic to the next meeting agenda.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the PSAA Advisory Committee will be May16, 2001, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., California Department of Education Building, 721 Capitol Mall, Room 166 A/B, Sacramento, California.

Adjournment: Ms. Covin adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Seabourne,
Recording Secretary